

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 21, as follows:

The specimen centrifuge unit 12 in the lower stage performs the same operation as that of the specimen centrifuge unit 11 in the upper stage. The operation of carrying in the specimen containers 1 whose specimens are to be centrifuged by the centrifuge unit 12 can be performed any time during a period of time except when the operation of carrying in the specimen containers 1 whose specimens are to be centrifuged by the centrifuge unit 11 is carried out.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 14, as follows:

The third embodiment also differs from the first embodiment as follows. The locations of carry-in and carry-out conveyors 21 and 22 are 90 degrees different from each other, and the specimen containers are inserted at and removed from the container inserting and removing positions IN and OUT which are spaced ~~each other~~ by 90 degrees on the rotor RX.